

WEEKLY TRAFFIC SAFETY REMINDERS

OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2011



October 2

Tomorrow is the start of “Drive Safely Work Week,” reminding drivers to share the road safely. No matter what you drive, whether a car, truck, motorcycle, or bicycle, look out for those around you and be aware of how your actions affect others. Patience and respect are great companions for any trip. For more information, visit www.trafficsafety.org.



October 9

Drivers simply can't do two things at once! Drivers who use hand-held devices while driving are four times as likely to get into crashes serious enough to injure themselves or others. You are more likely to take your eyes off the road, your hands off the wheel, and your mind off the road if talking or texting while driving. Driving is not the time for multi-tasking! For more information, visit www.distraction.gov.



October 16

This is National Teen Driver Safety Week. Parents, talk to your teenage drivers often to set driving rules and clearly outline the consequences of breaking them. The risk of a fatal crash for a teen driver doubles with just one teen passenger. Each new passenger increases the risk of a fatal crash. Remember, you influence your child's driving behavior anytime you drive your kids, even before they begin to drive. For more information, visit www.teendriverssource.org.

October 23



When you get in a vehicle, do you **always** remember to put your seat belt on? Don't let the one time you don't bother be the time it counts. In a given year, 62 percent of African-American passenger vehicle occupants killed were not buckled up at the time of the crash. How many of those who lost their lives forgot just that one time? Whether you're a driver or passenger, driving around the block or across the country — buckle up. For more information, visit www.nhtsa.gov and select “Seat Belts.”

October 30



As Halloween nears, the streets and neighborhoods will be filled with children and teenagers, wearing costumes and on a mission for candy!

Since they will be distracted, make sure you are not. Slow down in residential areas. These days Halloween is also a time for adult parties. Help keep your friends and loved ones from drinking and driving, reminding them that *buzzed driving is drunk driving*. For more information, visit www.stopimpaireddriving.org.

November 6

Daylight savings time ends today, so take extra precaution as more of your driving may be in the dark. Nighttime driving can present many challenges, including decreased visibility and impaired judgment resulting from drowsiness. Play it safe — don't speed, always wear your seat belt, and don't drive when you're tired. For more information, visit www.nhtsa.gov. Click on "Driving Safety."

November 13

This time of year is a wonderful time for families. But more important than trips, toys, or oversized meals is your family's safety. You can help protect your children by using seat belts along with the proper child/booster seat. For more information, visit www.nhtsa.gov. Click on "Driving Safety" and choose "Child Safety."



November 20



This Thanksgiving have a wonderful celebration for all that you are thankful for, but be safe while you do it. Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for African-Americans between the ages of 1 and 14. Be safe — buckle up, drive the speed limit and never drive impaired! Buckling up could save your giblets! For more information, visit www.nhtsa.gov.

November 27



The holiday has passed, and kids are back to their usual routine. This means school buses will be back on the roads carrying our congregation's precious cargo. Slow down for school zones, stop for school buses that are loading or unloading, and teach your children to be on the lookout for vehicles that may not be looking out for them. For information, visit www.nhtsa.dot.gov. Click on "Driving Safety" and choose "School Buses."

December 4

Don't let winter slip up on you! Be prepared to drive in winter conditions before they arrive. It is important to use slower acceleration and speeds on icy roads. Always allow extra time to reach your destination during inclement weather. It is not worth putting your own life or the lives of others in danger to save time. Also, stock your vehicle with important winter emergency items such as salt, drinking water, blanket, shovel, flashlight and a safety flare. For more info, Google the phrase: Winter Driving Tips.



December 11

Christmas vacation is a wonderful time for children, family, and friends. Whether your time away from school or work leaves you busy with the hustle and bustle of the holidays or at leisure with unoccupied time, talk with your family about celebrating responsibly. Help your children understand the consequences of drinking and driving. For more information, visit www.stopimpaireddriving.org.



December 18

During your holiday travels, always remember to properly secure young children. Did you know that all children under 13 should ride in the back seat? As children grow, how they should ride securely in your vehicle changes also. Save your child from injury or death by observing all laws for children and following proper child safety seat guidelines. For more information, visit www.nhtsa.gov and click on "Child Safety."

December 25

Holiday memories stay with you from childhood throughout your adult life, whatever your family traditions may be. From the lights of the tree, songs of the season, and spirit of giving, the best memories are those of the ones you love. Sadly, this can also be a dangerous time of year on the streets and highways. This year, encourage friends and loved ones to be safe, refuse to ride with someone who has been drinking, and volunteer to be a designated driver. For more information, visit www.stopimpaireddriving.org.

